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Translated by  
Defense Language Branch

EXCERPT FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN"

MAY 29, 1927. (SUNDAY)

THE GOVERNMENT STATES REASONS FOR DESPATCH OF TROOPS  
SPECIAL EXPLANATION TO THE FOUR POWERS, U S A., FRANCE AND  
ITALY AS WELL AS LOCAL AUTHORITIES CONCERNED IN CHINA.

Having obtained Imperial sanction for the despatch of troops to north China the Government issued the following proclamation noon of the 26th. The proclamation was designed to obtain understanding by means of explaining the more widely to the <sup>local</sup> authorities concerned throughout China thereby avoiding any misunderstanding. The Foreign Office, therefore, made arrangements and on the same day fully explained the sincere intentions of the Japanese Government to the Peiping Government, the Hankow Government, the Nanking Government, the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Chihli Shantung Armies, CHANG, Tsung-chang, and to the <sup>ti</sup> governor of Tsingtao open port and to the respective diplomatic heads of the Southern China branches of the Kuomintang in Swatow Foochow, Amoy etc. Furthermore in connection with the numerous conferences which had been held up to that time with the four powers, England, America, France and Italy regarding the organization of North China, Foreign Minister TAMURA on the same day at 11.30 a.m. invited the representative of the above four <sup>Powers</sup> to the Foreign Office and explained to them in detail the object

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in despatching troops. At the same time, on that day the <sup>Japanese</sup> Minister stationed in the above four countries were to explain the same intention to the home governments of the Power concerned. Judging from recent disorders in China particularly those incidents in Hanking, Hankow and other areas, in the event of military disorder as the Chinese authorities have proven themselves incapable of affording full protection, the lives and property of resident Japanese national are jeopardized. Imperial prestige is damaged and with the present mounting disorder in North China it cannot but be feared that there will be an outbreak of further serious incidents. Now that such rests have extended to the TSUINAN area we cannot but feel anxiety for the safety of the lives and property of Japanese residents in that locality. The number of Japanese residents in that area is well above two thousand. Furthermore, as this is in an interior area far removed from the coast it is impossible to rely on naval forces as is the practice in peace on the Chang Kiang coast. The Imperial Government, therefore, in order to prevent the outbreak of further incidents and in order to protect the lives and property of resident Japanese, had no alternative but to use troops.

The despatch of troops, however, requires some time but the situation was changing rapidly. It was therefore decided to despatch to Tsingtao without waste of time about 2000 troops.

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from these units stationed in Manchuria. The aforesaid protection<sup>ti</sup>  
by use of army troops is nothing more than an unavoidable<sup>emergenc</sup>  
self-defense measure purely designed to preserve the security of  
resident Japanese national and does not constitute the opening<sup>c</sup>  
operations or the prosecution of military action directed either  
against China or her people. The Japanese Government explains  
that from the outset even though troops have been despatched as<sup>c</sup>  
unavoidable self-defense measure there is no plan for a long  
occupation and when it is considered that there is no longer<sup>dange</sup>  
of plots against the Japanese in the area, all troops despatched  
will be immediately withdrawn.

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Certificate of Source and Authenticity a Document

I, in my capacity as Chief of the Inspection Branch of the Tokyo Asahi Shinbun Sha hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in the Japanese language, consisting of three pages and entitled "Government States Reasons for Despatch of Troops. Special Explanation to the Four powers, England, America France and Italy as well as Local Authorities concerned in China" is an exact copy of an article published in the "Asahi Shinbun" on 29th May 1927.

6th January 1947

At Head Office of Asahi-Shimbun-Sha

/S/ NISHIJIMA, Shigeji (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed in my presence.

Same date  
Same place

Witness: Assistant Chief Inspection Branch, Head Office Asahi Shinbun Sha.

/S/ SAKAMOTO, Izumi (seal)

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/S/ William E. Clarke.

Tokyo, Japan  
Date 27 Jan 1947

"Government States reason for despatch of troops"

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文書成立ニ關スル證明書

(七號A)

私ハ東京朝日新聞社ノ調査部長ノ職ニ在ルモノナル虞茲ニ添付セル日本  
語ニテ書カレ三頁ヨリ成ル「政府出兵理由ヲ聲明、英米佛伊四國並ビニ  
文部各地方當局ニハ特ニ説明」ト題スル文書ハ昭和二年五月二十九日發  
行ノ朝日新聞紙掲載記事ノ寫ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年一月六日

於 朝日新聞東京本社

西 島 芳 二

右署名捺印ハ私ノ面前ニ於テナサレタルモノナルコトヲ證明ス

同日 於 同 所

立會人

朝日新聞東京本社

調査部次長 阪 本 泉



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朝日新聞抜萃

昭和二年五月二十九日（日曜日）

政府出兵理由を聲明

英米佛伊四國並びに支那各地方當局には特に説明

政府は北支出兵決行の御認可を得たので廿八日正午次の聲明を發した。この聲明はひろく支那各地の地方當局に通告をなし誤解のなきやう諒解を求め置く必要ありとし外務省では既にこれが手配りを整へて置いたので同  
日北京政府、漢口政府、南京政府、直魯聯軍總司令張宗昌氏、青島商埠督  
辦並に汕頭、福州、廈門等の南支各國民黨支部に對しそれぞれ出先外交官  
をして十分日本政府の眞意の存するところを説明せしむるはずである。又  
英米佛伊の四國は從來北支の整備問題について種々協議を行つてゐた關係  
と並に事實上北支に駐兵してゐる理由から田中外相は同日午前十一時半右  
四ヶ國代表を外務省に招じて派兵の目的を詳細に説明するところあつたが  
同時に本日右四ヶ國本國においても各駐在大使からそれぞれ同様の趣旨を  
本國政府に説明せしむるはずである。

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支那における最近の動亂殊に南京漢口その他の地方における事件の實跡に徴するに兵亂の際支那官憲において保護十分なるを得ざりし爲に在留帝國臣民の生命財産に對する重大なる危害を被り甚しきは帝國の名譽毀損の暴舉を見たり従つて現下北支の動亂切迫の際この重要事件再發のおそれなきを保せず今や右動亂は濟南地方に波及せむとし同地在留帝國臣民の生命財産の安全に付危ぐの急おく能はざるものあり同地には帝國臣民の居住するもの二千の多數に上り然も同地は海岸を阻ること遠き奥地にあるをもつて長江沿岸各地における如く海軍力によりこれを保護すること到底不可能なるにより帝國政府においては不しやう事件の再發を豫防するため陸兵をもつて在留日本人の生命財産を保護するのやむを得ざるに至れり。然るに右保護のため派兵の手配をなすには相當日子を要ししかも戰局は刻々變化しつゝあるに顧み應急處置として在滿部隊より約二千の兵を取敢ず青島に派遣し置くことに決せり。右陸軍力による保護は固より在留日本人の安全を期する自衛上やむを得ざるの緊急處置に外ならずして支那國およびその人民に對してもその作戰に干渉し軍事行動を妨害するものに非ず

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帝國政府はかくの如く自衛上やむを得ざる處置として派兵を行ふといへどもはじめより永く駐在せしむる意圖なく同地方の日本人にして戰亂の患を受くるの恐れなきに至らば直に派遣軍全部を撤退すべきことをるゝに聲明す。

PURL: <http://www.legal-tools.org/doc/bc4c90/>



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